

CLAIMS

I claim:

1. An adjustable spice grinder, comprising:
 - a stationary outer grinding member comprised of a ring with a serrated internal surface;
 - a rotatable inner grinding member with a serrated external surface positioned within said outer grinding member to form a tapered annular gap there between;
 - a cap comprised of a face plate attached to an outer end of a cylinder positioned around said outer grind member and said inner grinding member, wherein said cap is rotationally locked to said inner grinding member;
 - spice dispensing slots positioned on said face plate of said cap;
 - an adjustment knob attached to an outer end of a shaft positioned through said cap and said inner grinding member, wherein an inner end of said shaft is axially secured to said inner grinding member;
 - a spring biasing said inner grinding member toward an inner end of said shaft;
 - a first spiral ramp connected to said knob and engaging a second spiral ramp connected to said cap; andwherein when said knob is rotated, said knob is moved axially to move said inner grinding member relative to said outer grinding member to adjust said gap for adjusting grind coarseness.
2. The adjustable spice grinder of claim 1, wherein said inner grinding member is comprised of a cone.
3. The adjustable spice grinder of claim 1, further including a centering ring concentrically attached around said inner grinding member, wherein said centering ring is positioned around said outer grinding member to axially align said inner grinding member within said outer grinding member.

4. The adjustable spice grinder of claim 1, further including a threaded mounting ring for attaching to a threaded spice container, wherein said mounting ring is rotationally fixed to said outer grinding member.
5. The adjustable spice grinder of claim 1, further including a threaded mounting ring for attaching to a threaded spice container, wherein said mounting ring is rotationally fixed to said outer grinding member, and said serrated internal surface of said outer grinding member and said serrated external surface of said inner grinding member are directional for grinding only in a direction matching a direction for tightening said mounting ring onto said spice container.
6. The adjustable spice grinder of claim 1, further including coarseness indicia on said face plate around said knob for indicating selected coarseness.
7. The adjustable spice grinder of claim 1, wherein said first spiral ramp and said second spiral ramp are serrated for maintaining relative positioning thereof.
8. An adjustable spice grinder, comprising:
 - a stationary outer grinding member comprised of a ring with a serrated internal surface;
 - a rotatable inner grinding member with a serrated external surface positioned within said outer grinding member to form a tapered annular gap there between;
 - a centering ring concentrically attached around said inner grinding member, wherein said centering ring is positioned around said outer grinding member to axially align said inner grinding member within said outer grinding member;
 - a cap comprised of a face plate attached to an outer end of a cylinder positioned around said outer grind member and said inner grinding member, wherein said cap is rotationally locked to said inner grinding member;
 - spice dispensing slots positioned on said face plate of said cap;

an adjustment knob attached to an outer end of a shaft positioned through said cap and said inner grinding member, wherein an inner end of said shaft is axially secured to said inner grinding member;

coarseness indicia on said face plate around said knob for indicating selected coarseness;

springs connected to said inner grinding member and biased against an inner surface of said cap to bias said inner grinding member toward an inner end of said shaft;

a first spiral ramp connected to said knob and engaging a second spiral ramp connected to said cap, wherein said first spiral ramp and said second spiral ramp are serrated for maintaining relative positioning thereof; and

wherein when said knob is rotated, said knob is moved axially to move said inner grinding member relative to said outer grinding member to adjust said gap for adjusting grind coarseness.

9. The adjustable spice grinder of claim 8, wherein said inner grinding member is comprised of a cone.
10. The adjustable spice grinder of claim 8, further including a threaded mounting ring for attaching to a threaded spice container, wherein said mounting ring is rotationally fixed to said outer grinding member.
11. The adjustable spice grinder of claim 8, further including a threaded mounting ring for attaching to a threaded spice container, wherein said mounting ring is rotationally fixed to said outer grinding member, and said serrated internal surface of said outer grinding member and said serrated external surface of said inner grinding member are directional for grinding only in a direction matching a direction for tightening said mounting ring onto said spice container.